



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 803

Chairperson: Senator Merton L. Dierks
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: February 20, 2001

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 803 adopts the Pork Industry Development Act. The bill provides for a state producer funded program of promotion, marketing, research and consumer education similar to existing promotion programs for other commodities. The purpose of the bill is to provide a mechanism for pork producers to fund programs and activities that stimulate research into improved production methods or new uses of pork, promote the value of pork to consumers, and develop markets for Nebraska pork and pork products.

The bill provides for the appointment of a 7 member Board to oversee the expenditure of funds. The Board is specifically authorized and directed to undertake actions consistent with the purposes of the act and to provide an accounting of the use of checkoff funds. Beginning on the effective date of the bill, LB 803 assesses a checkoff fee of 25 cents per \$100 of the gross value of swine involved in transactions. After January 1, 2004, the Board shall determine the assessment rate but shall not assess more than 45 cents / \$100.

LB 803 enables the continuation of promotion and utilization programs upon the anticipated termination of the national pork checkoff pending final rule of the USDA.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Merton L. Dierks, Chairperson
Committee on Agriculture